

# INFORMATION REPORT

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**SUBJECT** Soviet Military Activities in Poland

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**SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.**

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### Troop Movement

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1. No Soviet Army groups of significant size have arrived in Poland recently. Quarters for about 5,000 troops, however, have been prepared in Rawles. An engineer unit of 2,000 men is training along the Oder River at Brzeg.
2. The Soviet Army has evacuated some estates at Zabkowice, removing all buildings and equipment. Soviet officials return periodically to direct farm work and reiterate that this year's crop is theirs.

## Soviet Airfields

3. There is a Soviet airfield at Brzeg six kilometers south of the town's center. On 26 May 47, 43 heavy pursuit planes were on the field; three days later there were also five observation aircraft. Air groups at the field engage in constant training which includes gunnery practice against sleeve targets.
4. Approximately 800 men are stationed at the Soviet airfield in Olawa. Equipment includes 30 US twin-engine, 20 single-engine Soviet aircraft, and 15 trainers. Training at the field embraces night flying, single and group flights, and low altitude bombing in loose formation.
5. During the night of 17-18 May 47, large aircraft formations flew westward over Wroclaw.

Arms Factory in Chocianow (Formerly Kaczanow)

6. A large ex-German arms and munitions factory, located in a forest approximately six kilometers from Mieczanow, is in full production. The factory grounds are protected by barbed wire, and all Poles are denied entry to the plant. Convoys of covered and strongly guarded vehicles leave the plant at night, driving to the Soviet Zone. These precautions prevent identification of the materials being transported. Local inhabitants say the Germans manufactured weapons at the factory.

### Transport Movements

7. Soviet transport movements through Warsaw have increased since 10 May 47. Rail traffic has been particularly heavy from west to east. Between 10 May and 5 Jun 47, 163 transports carrying machinery, raw materials, half-fabricated products, trucks,

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and cars passed through Warsaw to the east. On 3 Jun 47 alone, three transports moved eastward through Warsaw carrying a total of 183 automobiles. During the 10 May to 5 Jun 47 period, 127 trains passed through Warsaw from east to west. Twenty-three were loaded with tanks, motorized artillery, and anti-tank guns; the balance carried ammunition, implements, and uniforms.

8. In conjunction with their intensified transport, Soviet authorities have expedited the construction of a second track on the Warsaw-Praga-Nasielisk railroad line.

#### Communications Facilities

9. The Soviet Army is expanding its telephone network rapidly in Poznan Province. Communications battalions are erecting telephone lines along many of the provincial roads.

#### Integration of War Production Plans

10. Plans for the mobilization of Polish industry in the event of war have been drafted and co-ordinated with Soviet war production needs. These plans, effective on the outbreak of war, call for all Polish factories to be dismantled and transferred to the Soviet interior along with operating personnel. Polish coal mines would also be commandeered by the Soviet Government and operated under Soviet management.

#### Soviet Infiltration into Postal and Railroad Services

11. Postal and railroad services are being brought under Soviet control in various sections of Poland. The USSR has, for example, prepared plans for commandeering railroad facilities in Gdynia and Stettin. A Soviet detachment, assigned to the movements section of the District Railroad Office in Krakow, is permitted access to all office files, records, and operational information.
12. The following incident, which occurred during a railroad workers' strike in Pruszkow, illustrates the Soviet Army's interest in Poland's railroad network. Minister of Transport Jan Rabanowski, in an effort to arbitrate the strike, invited the striking workers to appear at the Ministry. When they arrived they were met by a Soviet colonel who reprimanded them for hampering transportation and ordered them to return to work immediately "because the railroads are of utmost importance to the Soviet Army."

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